

Briefing Note No. 26-22

Service Devolution & Asset Transfer Policy – revision update

Service : Assets
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This follows the Briefing Note that was provided in March 2026 (reference 26-03) in respect of the revisions to the Service Devolution & Asset Transfer (SDAT) Policy following the adoption of Our Wiltshire Plan 2025-2035 and the Asset Management Strategy 2025-2035.

The changes made in the policy reflect the experience of councils in previous SDAT packages and comments made to Wiltshire Council regarding flexibility of the existing policy. Revisions were proposed, with Town & Parish Councils asked to provide feedback on those revisions.

We would like to thank all Town & Parish Councils for giving the matter consideration and the comments received. Following the feedback further revisions have been made, a copy attached for reference, and the intention is for Wiltshire Council's Cabinet to consider the policy in December 2026.

Changes made to the policy following Town and Parish Council feedback

Issue raised	Revision made
No evidence to be provided in negotiations	New section added (Negotiating process)
WC consent needed for leases	Wording added to confirm leases generating rent is exempt, long leases at a premium is included.
WC to receive payments from leases granted	Wording added to confirm leases generating rent is exempt, long leases at a premium is included.
WC right to terminate service agreement	New wording added to clarify circumstances where WC can terminate (Prohibited Act)

Costs but no benefits	New wording added
Precept timing is November - January	New section added (Negotiating process)
WC announcements after precepts set	New section added (Negotiating process)
Finance incentive not enough (Streetscene contribution of saving)	Reflected in section 5 revisions
50% clawback to be removed	Reasoning included in revisions
Flowchart of process needed	New section added (Negotiating process)
Is transfer compulsory?	New wording added to confirm not compulsory
Capital or revenue contribution to be made	Reflected in section 5 revisions
Incorporate Parish Council transfers within document	Town/Parish councils referred to throughout the document

Once Cabinet has considered the report and recommended policy changes, we will provide a further update.